

WASHINGTON GOSSIP.

The Week's Doings at the National Capital.

THE House of Representatives seems to be running on a groove—please principle at present.

There is no vote while the tariff is under discussion. Members thereof can play "hooky" to their heart's content. It has been a rare thing to see half the seats full even in the early hours, but a broad spring up, in the shape of a somewhat animated discussion between the opposing sides, and, like magic, we see statesmen appear from all quarters, as though they had risen from the floor. When a more than usually eloquent speaker is addressing the House, we see, too, the seats on his side of it pretty comfortably filled; thus a fine, free-trade argument sets all the Democratic statesmen cackling, while the Republicans are content, save those most immediately interested in the particular speech; and, vice versa, a learned disquisition on the tariff calls out a hoarse Republican guffaw, which reverberates on the bare walls of the chamber.

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they when they make a good point, but Gen. Brown, who does not care a rap whether school boys or not, looks on, and, on one occasion, Col. Henderson turns toward the Chairman, as though half expecting that his fiery denunciations would be nipped in the bud from that quarter, while Brockbridge, of Kentucky, all ways looks toward the ladies' gallery when he makes a hit.

CAUCUS ON THE TARIFF.
The Democratic Members of the House of Representatives met in caucus Wednesday evening of last week and attempted to adjust their discordant views on the tariff. More than 120 were present. Speaker Carlisle was among the absentees. The caucus was called to order by Mr. Cox, and Mr. Mills offered a resolution that Democrats desiring to amend the bill should submit their proposed amendments as soon as possible to the Democratic members of the Ways and Means Committee, to be considered and reported upon to another Democratic caucus, to be called as soon as those gentlemen were ready to report. Mr. Randall approved the resolution, but gave notice that he would not be prevented by the action of the caucus from moving and discussing at any time any amendment he desired to offer to any part of the bill. Several other members indicated that they would submit amendments. A quorum of the Members gave notice that they would hand in amendments relative to the interests of their respective Districts, and the following amendments were offered and read to the Democratic members of the Ways and Means Committee:

By Mr. Crain, of Texas.—To place sheep skins, surgical instruments, coats, and all machinery used in the manufacture of bagging, or of cotton or woolen goods, on the free list. Also, to reduce the tariff on woolen manufactured goods to 25 per cent. ad valorem. Also, to fix the duty at two cents per pound on bagging of cotton or other manufactures suitable to the uses to which cotton bagging is applied, composed in whole or in part of hemp, jute, flax, gunny-bags, gunny-bags, or any other material.

By Mr. Rogers, of Arkansas (by request).—Fixing the duty on alcohol at 10 per cent. ad valorem.

By Mr. Glass, of Tennessee.—Striking potatoes from the free list.

By Mr. Ford, of Michigan.—Placing German looking-glass plates on the free list.

By Mr. Rayner, of Maryland.—Retaining the present duties on iron and steel.

By Mr. Caruth, of Kentucky.—Fixing the duty on hemp, jute and flax bagging at two cents per pound.

By Mr. Vance, of Connecticut.—Changing the duty on wool from 5 to 10 cents per pound, and from 10 to 14 cents per pound, according to size.

By Mr. Holman, of Indiana.—A resolution declaring that the duty on sugar ought to be reduced 50 per cent. and that the duty on paintings and other works of art ought not to be reduced, and that coal ought to be placed on the free list.

By Mr. Johnston, of North Carolina.—To repeal the internal revenue laws and to place a tax on incomes to supply the deficiency.

By Mr. Cummings, of New York.—Fixing the present duties on iron and steel at 10 per cent. ad valorem, and on threads and twines at the same rate.

By Mr. Wilkins, of Ohio.—To change the duty on cotton bagging from three to two cents per yard.

By Mr. Tracy, of New York.—To place nitrate of soda on the free list.

By Mr. McKim, of Michigan.—Placing carpets, wool, salt, goat hair, timber, building stones and a number of chemicals on the free list.

By Mr. Springer, of Michigan.—Placing on the free list all manufactured products of the domestic production of iron and steel.

By Mr. Rayner, of Maryland.—Restoring the duty on manufactured clothing, bristles and glue.

By Mr. Glover, of Missouri.—Retaining present duties on glass.

By Mr. Granger, of Connecticut.—Retaining existing duties on hatters' furs on the skin.

By Mr. Dougherty, of Florida.—Increasing the duty on oranges 25 per cent. over the present rate.

By Mr. Stone, of Kentucky.—Placing carpenter's tools and farmers' implements on the free list.

By Mr. Chipman, of Michigan.—Placing bituminous coal and ice on the free list and retaining the present duty on wood pulp and window glass.

By Mr. T. J. Campbell, of New York.—Placing a duty of 40 per cent. on raffia and rushings in addition to the rate on the component of chief value.

It will be observed from this schedule that there is going to be no end of difficulty harmonizing the gentlemen. They all want protection on the staples of their own section, and free trade on those of the other fellows.

MR. RANDALL'S POSITION ON PENSION LEGISLATION.

Gen. Burdett, of the G. A. R. National Pension Committee, remained a day longer in Washington than the others to put on the finishing touches to their bill. Before he left for his home in Chicago Saturday night, he was asked what he thought of the outlook for pension legislation.

"This is the situation: We have bills enough reported in some shape or other called up in any way, except under the gag rule, or as Mason puts it, 'under suspension of the rules,' we might get something done. The trouble is that the House is not getting fair consideration. Our only hope in this condition of affairs is Mr. Randall, of Pennsylvania. This arises from the fact that he has the casting vote, and is the only one who can speak, and I believe we shall pull out of a very tight place by his help. The committee on Rules is privileged to make a report any time, and if they bring in a recommendation to the House to make a special order, we have a chance for consideration of our business, the House will vote as the time."

VETERANS IN THE CITY.

C. H. Shaw, 1st Mass. H. A., Boston. Comrade Shaw is an old employee of the Boston office and a very valuable one.

P. H. O'Connell, 1st Mass. H. A., Danvers, Mass. Comrade O'Connell was a prisoner of war with Comrade Shaw and has had considerable experience in making escapes. He got away from the rebels five times before he finally succeeded in making his way into our lines, which he reached some time in the neighborhood of Knoxville, after long weeks of journeying over the mountains from Columbia, S. C. The story of his attempts is a romantic and thrilling one, and has been an interesting feature of soldier gatherings in Massachusetts.

U. Dodd, 5th N. Y., Black Earth, Wis. Comrade Dodd is a well-known figure in the ranks of the G. A. R. and has been a member of the National Executive Committee.

R. C. Smith, 1st N. Y., Cav., Eldridge, N. Y. Comrade Smith is a well-known figure in the ranks of the G. A. R. and has been a member of the National Executive Committee.

Insults.

Dr. J. A. Lintner, the well-known otomologist of New York, says there are in the world 320,000 cases of insanity, 250,000 of them belong to the United States, and about 25,000 prey upon the productions of man; 7,000 of 8,000 of these could be considered as fruit pests, and, if properly managed, they would be a great benefit to the world.

The future success of fruit-growers should study entomology, and be acquainted with insects and their habits, so as to be able to tell them from loss. Professor Lintner recommends the study of feeding and habits as a guide to the use of insecticides, which should also receive notice.

Cavalry in the Future.

The part that cavalry is likely to play in war seems to be more and more important than we have been taught to believe. Up to a quite recent time we were told that, because of the quick-fire small-arms, there would be no use for cavalry, for they could not hope to get within striking distance. We'll remember to read how the French saved the famous Mameluke cavalry, 10,000 strong, under Marshal Bugeo, and if musketeers could do this, how could horses avail against machine guns? But suppose the Mameluke cavalry to have had machine guns like those of the Continental cavalry, now being reinforced with, perhaps ten, and 40 centuries would have looked down upon broken squares and invading hordes and routed infantry.

Gen. Brown's speech was a clear, logical, exhaustive review of the whole subject, per se, that would make a good text-book on this most intricate question, as he has made it the study of his life, and in that one speech embodied the result: while Col. Henderson's argument was a terrible arraignment of his opponents for their misrepresentations of facts, especially concerning his own State, and a logical showing of the opposite effects of the two policies on the future of our country.

Everybody wants to make a tariff speech, and all are anxious to secure an everlasting reputation thereby. "Straws show the way the wind blows," however, and it is amusing for an observant person to note the way in which these speeches are delivered. Most of the nominated candidates look up at the press gal-

J. ARMOY KNOX.

He Takes a Tour Among Inebriates and Ruminates.

NEW YORK, May 15.

Probably you have never been in an Inebriate Asylum, even in the city, so it may interest you to know something of what I learned while visiting two of these institutions to-day. A certain literary man of my acquaintance being desirous of obtaining treatment in such an asylum, asked me to arrange the matter for him. If I should tell you his name you would recognize it as that of one who has interested, instructed and amused two generations of readers with the products of his versatile pen. This man has a craving for stimulants that has increased of late—in fact, he is a chronic inebriate. He is, however, desirous of being cured of his affliction.

My first visit to-day was to what is called the "Home for Intemperate Men," situated on Eighty-sixth street in New York city. The Home is a large, four-story dwelling house. I was ushered into the parlor, a chilly and depressing room with rectangular furniture. I had only time to notice that it was not the kind of room where people live, or where children play, or where men and women meet and feel at home; and I was looking at

SOME FRAMED LEGENDS.

on the wall, one of which referred to wine as a mocker, and another to rum as a synonym of ruin, and was thinking that I had never known a man who seconded my treatment from drink with wine, and that in all my varied courtings with men of convivial habits I had never met one who used rum as a steady tipple, when I saw a young man, who, I thought, was a smooth voice and a manner that, while bland and deferential, was offensively patronizing.

"What do you want?" he asked.

"I am looking at the legends on the wall."

"You should be ashamed of yourself, sir."

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ably with the cure in other diseases that are treated at much earlier stages of their extension. In about one-third of the cases the cure is hereditary; at least, the fathers of the patients were inebriates. In such cases the chances of a cure are very small.

As the average drunkard is as dangerous to society and as likely to commit crime as the average lunatic, why should not inebriate asylums be built, either by local governments or by charitable and benevolent individuals? Enlightened people will some day see the necessity of doing this, and then the inebriate who is poor will have the benefit of such treatment as now can only be obtained by the comparatively rich.

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an imaginary bird, one of 10,000 that he said were roosting in it.

The tall, fine-looking man with the curly

hair and the face that bears evidence of years of pleasure, has been in the asylum for over three years, and is incurable. If he were outside he would be drunk in half an hour after leaving the gate. He is one of the few survivors of that terrible or brilliant Bohemian life in the years long gone used to meet in Paddy's dingy tavern on Broadway, and quaff beer and smoke pipe and tell queer stories.

When he thinks of his companions of the days when ambition pointed to fame, and the fire and strength of youth to length of days, wonder doesn't he wish he was what they were, molly-dust and crumbly bones, rather than a slave and prisoner here?

What a variety of drunkards and drinking men there are. There is the hilarious, the pugnacious, the loquacious, the morose, the accidental and the really drunk man; and there are many minor varieties. You can not tell by knowing a man when he is sober what kind of a drunkard he will be when he is drunk. I have known a man who, when sober, was the most genial and peaceable man in town, when drunk express an earnest desire for blood, and offer to fight anything from death to a wooden Indian. Quinquary's rules or no Quinquary's rules.

The pious man who walks rather than pay for a street-car ride, will, when full of cocktails, hire a hack for the night and "whoop" up "regardless of expense. Then there is the man who when drunk becomes ill and vomits and who, when sober, is a perfect gentleman, and who, when drunk, is a perfect brute.

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